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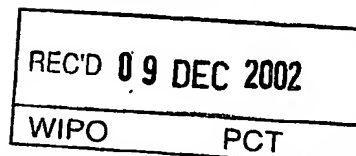


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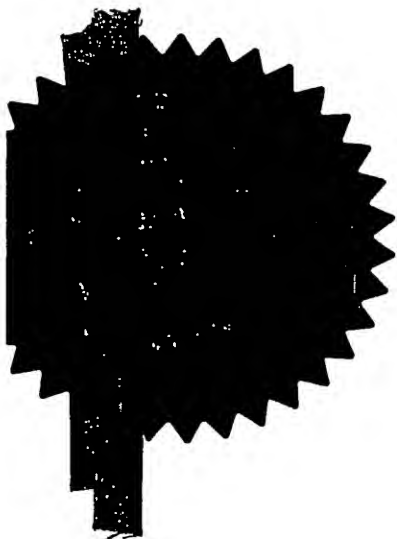


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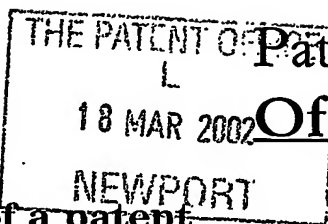
Signed

Stephen Hordley

Dated

26 November 2002

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1/77

Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get and explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

18 MAR 2002

The Patent Office
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT
Gwent NP9 1RH

1. Your reference

P0979.GBP

2. Patent application number

0206231.3

(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant. (underline all surnames)

MARK PANTON
159 Carholme Road
LINCOLN
LN1 1RU

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

7665865001

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

4. Title of the invention

ADHESIVE TAPE CUTTER

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

LOVEN & CO

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

Quantum House
30 Tentercroft Street
LINCOLN
LN5 7DB

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

4467460003

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country
**UNITED
KINGDOM**

Priority application number
(if you know it)
0200144.4

Date of filing
(day / month / year)
04/01/2002

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

NO

(a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
(b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
(c) any named applicant is a corporate body
See note (d))

Patents Form 1/77

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Continuation sheets of this form 0

Description 5

Claim(s) 0

Abstract 0

Drawing(s) 5 + 5 *DL*

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents 0

Translations of priority documents 0

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77) 0

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77) 0

Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77) 0

Any other documents (please specify) 0

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature *LORENZ G* Date 15 March 2002

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom **D J Murphy (01522 801111)**

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Notes

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TAPE END HOLDER FOR USE WITH OPEN ROLLS OF SELF ADHESIVE TAPE

Field of the Invention

The Invention relates to a device for allowing improved delivery of sections of adhesive tape from a roll of such adhesive tape.

5 Background of the Invention

Adhesive tape is a simple form of semi-permanent fixing. Generally, adhesive tape is supplied to the user in the form of a role made from a continuous strip of tape. The user can therefore peel off the desired length of tape, cut it, and then apply it to whatever material the user wishes.

10 Although the use of adhesive tape is a relatively simple exercise, sometimes the user can become frustrated by the constant need to find the free end of the adhesive tape each time a section of tape is removed from the roll. This minor chore can become a major task for users with impairments such as poor eyesight or arthritis.

At present, this common flaw of adhesive tape technology is dealt with by the
15 use of adhesive tape dispensers. These dispensers come in a wide range of forms, but they have a common operation mechanism, which involves holding the adhesive tape roll in a housing so that the tape can be unwound to a desired length before a section of tape is removed from the body using a cutting element, which is also attached to the housing.

20 Adhesive tape dispensers are an effective method of providing sections of tape from a roll of adhesive tape. However, adhesive tape rolls come in many different sizes and as a result, there are a wide range of tape dispensers to accommodate them. Users can find themselves forced to buy different tape dispensers to use with different size tape roll, which can lead to unnecessary expense.

25 Summary of the Invention

The invention provides a tape end holder for use with open rolls of self adhesive tape comprising a body, which can be located around a portion of a tape roll, in use, to guide the roll as it is rotated about the axis thereof, the body carrying a separation element for assisting in separating a section of the tape from the tape roll and a retaining
30 element to which the free end of the tape roll can be temporarily adhered.

Preferably, the body is adapted to facilitate the location thereof about a portion of a roll of adhesive tape. Advantageously, the body may comprise at least two separable parts, which come together to surround a portion of the roll.

Alternatively, the body may comprise at least one deformable element, which
5 can be deformed to permit the body to be located around a portion of the roll.

Preferably, the separating element comprises a cutting edge. It is appreciated
that a cutting edge would be better adapted for separating sections of plastics-based
adhesive tape (such a Sellotape [™]) from the roll. The cutting edge may comprise a single
sharp edge or alternatively a serrated edge.

10 Further advantage may be gained if the separating element presents an oblique
cutting edge.

Alternatively, the separating element comprises a tear-plate. It is appreciated
that a tear-plate would be better adapted for separating sections of masking tape from
the roll.

15 Preferably, the body may also comprise a guide means located parallel to the re-
taining means, which the tape passes under before it engages the retaining means.

Further advantage may be gained if the retaining means is brightly coloured.
This will help a user to instantly recognise the end of the adhesive tape.

Brief Description of the Preferred Embodiments

20 In the drawings, which illustrate preferred embodiments of the invention:
Figure 1 shows a side view of a first embodiment of the invention together with a roll of
adhesive tape;

Figure 2 shows a side view of a second embodiment of the invention together with a
roll of adhesive tape;

25 Figure 3 shows a side view of a third embodiment of the invention together with a roll
of adhesive tape;

Figure 4 shows a side view of a forth embodiment of the invention together with a roll
of adhesive tape;

30 Figure 5 shows a side view of the forth embodiment of the invention together with a
smaller roll of adhesive tape;

Figure 6 shows a side view of the fifth embodiment of the invention together with a roll of adhesive tape;

Figure 7 shows a front end view of the embodiment shown in Figure 6; and

Figure 8 shows a side view of an alternative arrangement of the fifth embodiment of the invention relative to the tape roll.

Detailed Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 illustrates a first preferred embodiment of the Tape end holder 2. The tape end holder 2 is fitted around a roll of adhesive tape 1. The tape end holder 2 is adapted to permit the roll of tape to be suitably engaged. Preferably, the tape end holder has chinks therein, which permit the tape roll to be linked therewith. In the preferred embodiment, the chinks (not shown) are located on sections 6 and 7 of the tape end holder 2. It is appreciated that alternative methods of engaging the tape end holder 2 with the roll of tape 1 are possible. One such alternative involves the tape end holder being made from two complementary pieces, which come together to enclose a portion of the roll of tape. In the first preferred embodiment, the roll of tape 1 is positioned relative to the tape end holder 2 in such a way that there are three points of contact (a, b and c.) Points a and c are where the tape end holder makes contact with the inner surface of the roll of tape 1, whereas point b is where the tape end holder makes contact with the outer surface of the roll of tape. It is this arrangement of points that facilitates the rotation of the roll 1 about its axis.

The tape end holder 2 carries a retaining member 4, across which the unrolled tape 8 is passed, and a cutting member 3, on which is mounted a cutting element 5 for separating a desired section of tape from the roll 1.

A second preferred embodiment can be appreciated from Figure 2. In this embodiment, the tape end holder takes the form of a ring 9. The ring 9 has a cutting edge 10 arranged about the periphery thereof. The side of the ring 9 provides the retaining surface 11 on which the end of the tape becomes temporarily adhered. The ring 9 makes contact with the roll of tape at two separate points; one contact point is located on the inner surface of the tape roll and the other contact point is located on the outer surface of the tape roll. In use, an operator's hand provides the third contact point,

which facilitates the rotation of the roll about its axis. As before, the tape roll is rotated to unfurl a section of adhesive tape, which is then separated from the tape roll by the cutting means with the end of the tape on the tape roll retained by the retaining element. i.e. the side of the ring. As with first embodiment the need to engage the tape end holder with the tape roll is facilitated by constructing the ring from two complementary sections that connect together around a portion of the tape roll. Alternatively, the ring may have a gap in it to permit the roll to be linked through the ring.

Figure 3 shows a third preferred embodiment of the tape end holder. This embodiment of the tape end holder 12 comprises two sections. The main body carries the retaining member 13 and the cutting member 14. The anchoring section comprises a member 15, with locating means 16, wherein the member slideably locates with a slot 17 in the main body. This arrangement permits the tape roll 1 to be inserted into the main body and then it is clamped in position by the slideably engaged anchoring section.

This arrangement facilitates the rotation of the tape roll 1 about its axis and thus permits the removal of tape sections as previously discussed.

Figures 4 and 5 illustrate a fourth preferred embodiment of the tape end holder. In this embodiment, the tape end holder comprises a clip 18 having retaining members 19 and a cutting member 20. As with first and second embodiments, the need to engage the tape end holder with the tape roll is satisfied by constructing the clip from two complementary sections that connect together around a portion of the tape roll. Alternatively, the clip may have a gap in it to permit the roll to be linked through the clip.

As with the second embodiment, the clip 18 engages the tape roll at two points; one contact point is on the inner surface of the roll of tape 1 and the other contact point is on the outer surface of the roll of tape 1. Once again, in use, the operator's hand provides the third contract point and thus facilitates the rotation of the tape roll about its axis.

Figure 4 illustrates the clip's 18 interaction with a first size of tape roll. Figure 5 illustrates the clip's 18 interaction with a second smaller tape roll. In both arrangements

the clip forms the necessary contacts to facilitate the rotation of the tape roll about its axis.

Figure 6 shows a fifth embodiment of the invention. The tape end holder 22 engages the adhesive tape roll 1 in a similar way to the first embodiment (as shown in Figure 1). The tape end holder 22 contacts the tape roll 1 at two points d, f on the inner surface of the roll using arms 23 and 25. The tape end holder 22 also contacts the tape roll at point e on the outer surface of the roll using a contact bar 24. The positioning of the points is such that the roll can rotate about a fixed central axis.

Arms 23 and 25 have chinks (not shown) in them to permit the tape holder to be located about the roll.

The tape end holder 22 also comprises a cutting member 26, having a blade element 27, and a tape retaining member 28. In use, a section of tape 8 is unrolled and cut off at a desired length, using the blade element 27, the remaining tape then falls on the retaining member 28 where it can easily be found.

The arrangement of the tape end holder 22 upon the adhesive tape roll 1 (partially shown) can be appreciated from Figure 7.

Figure 8 shows an alternative arrangement of the tape end holder 22 relative to the adhesive tape roll 1.

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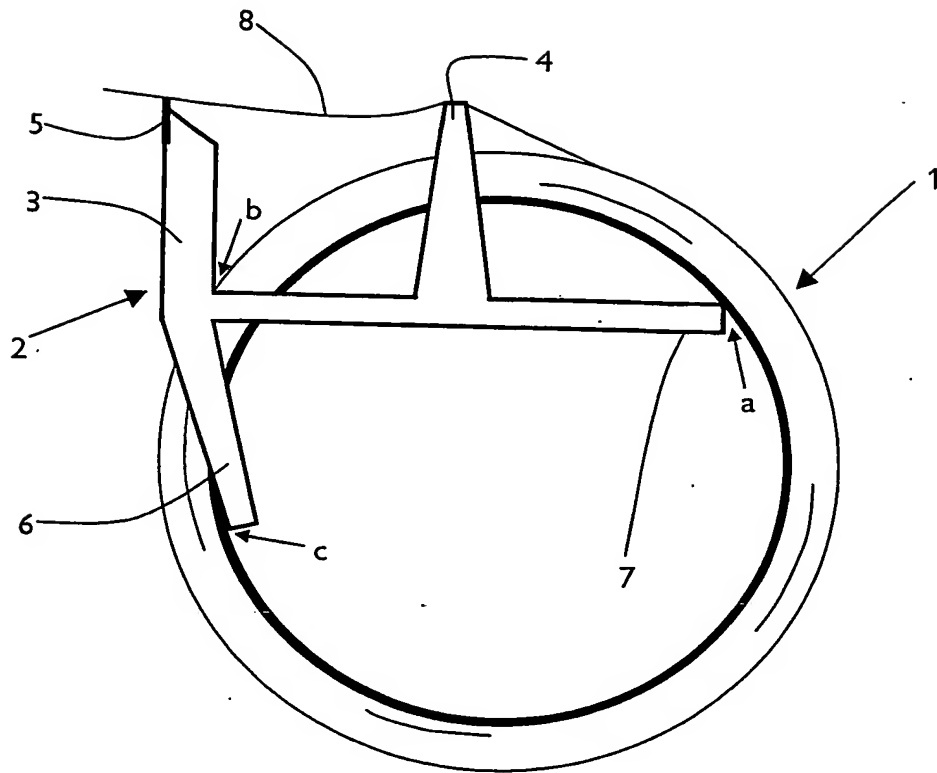


Fig. 1

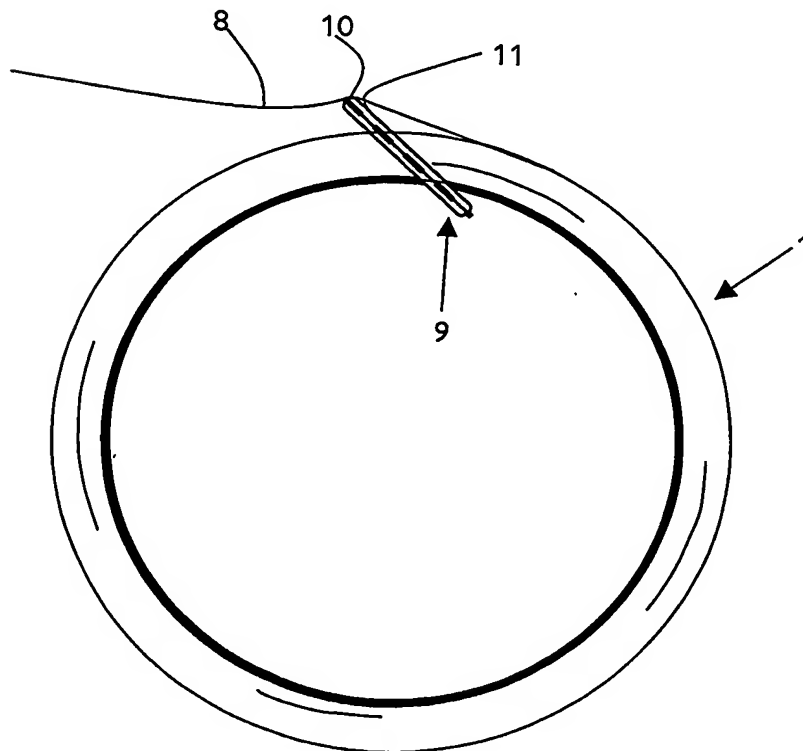


Fig. 2

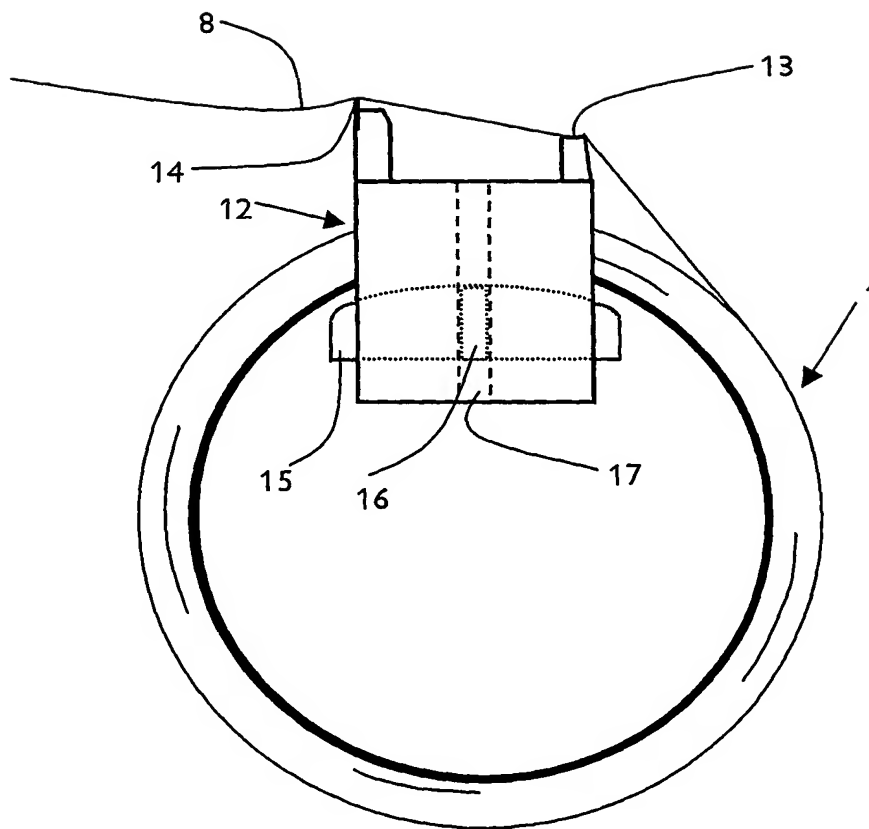


Fig. 3

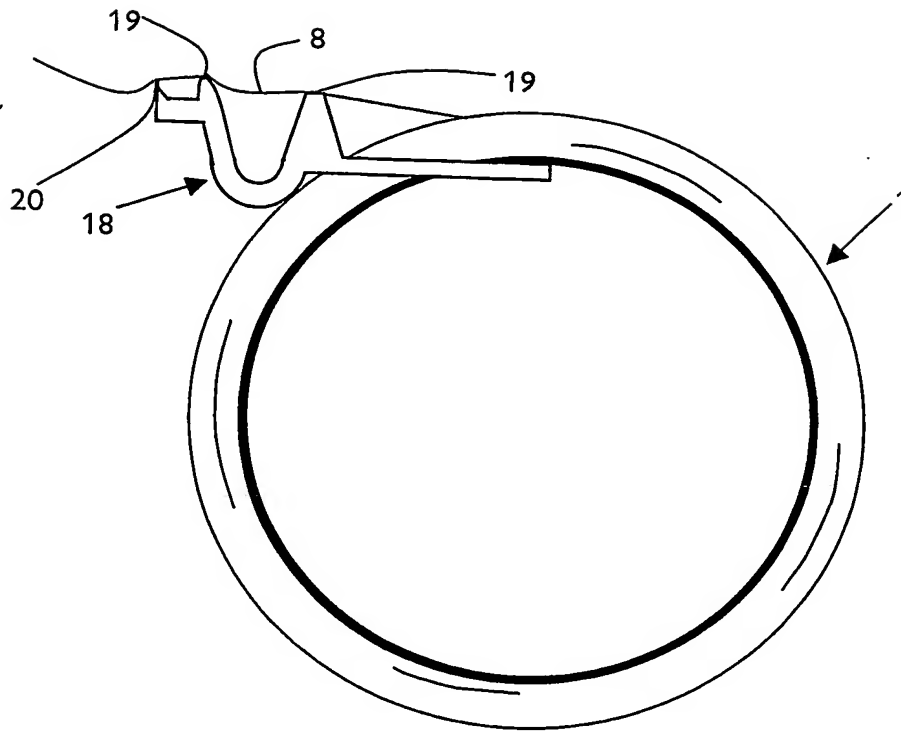


Fig. 4

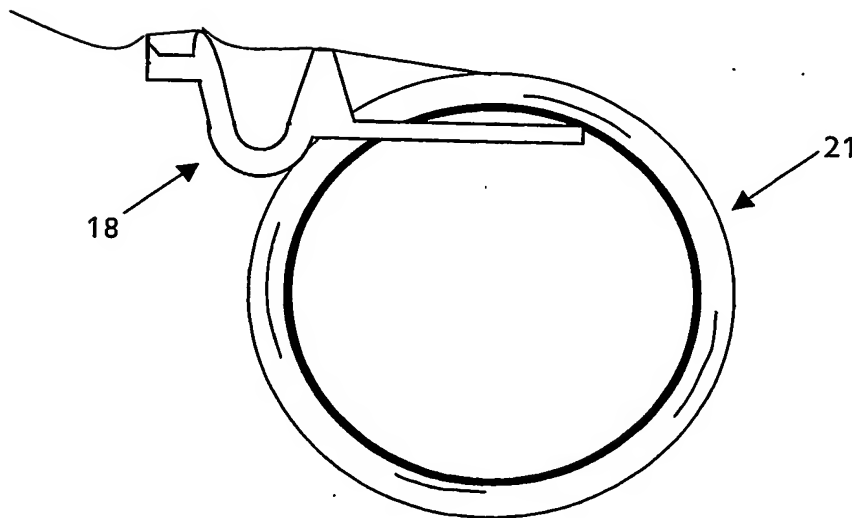


Fig. 5

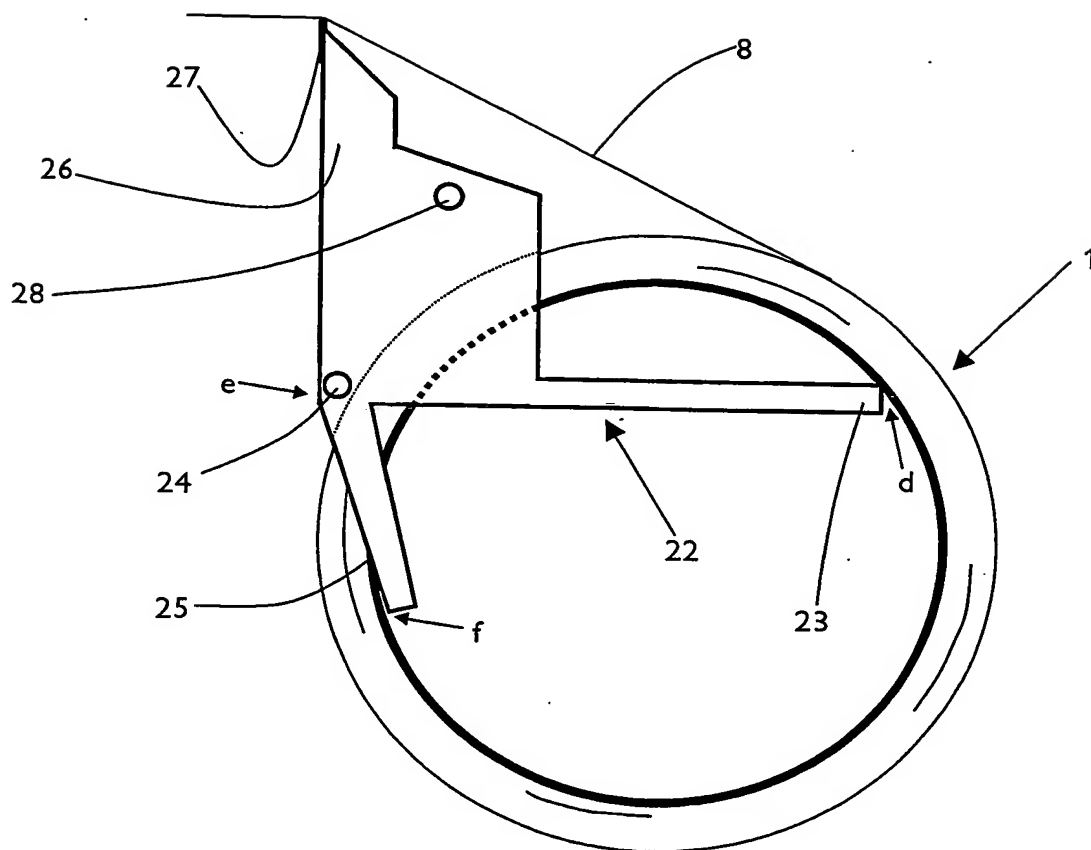


Fig. 6

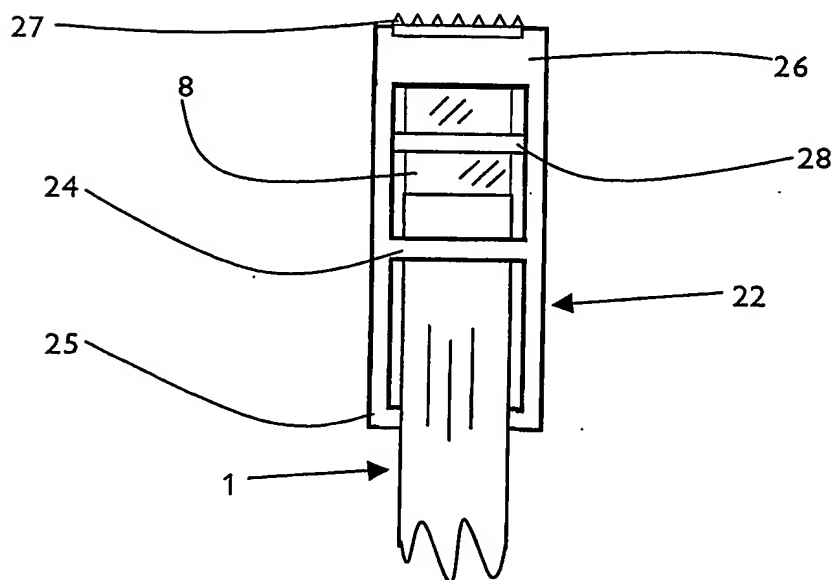


Fig. 7

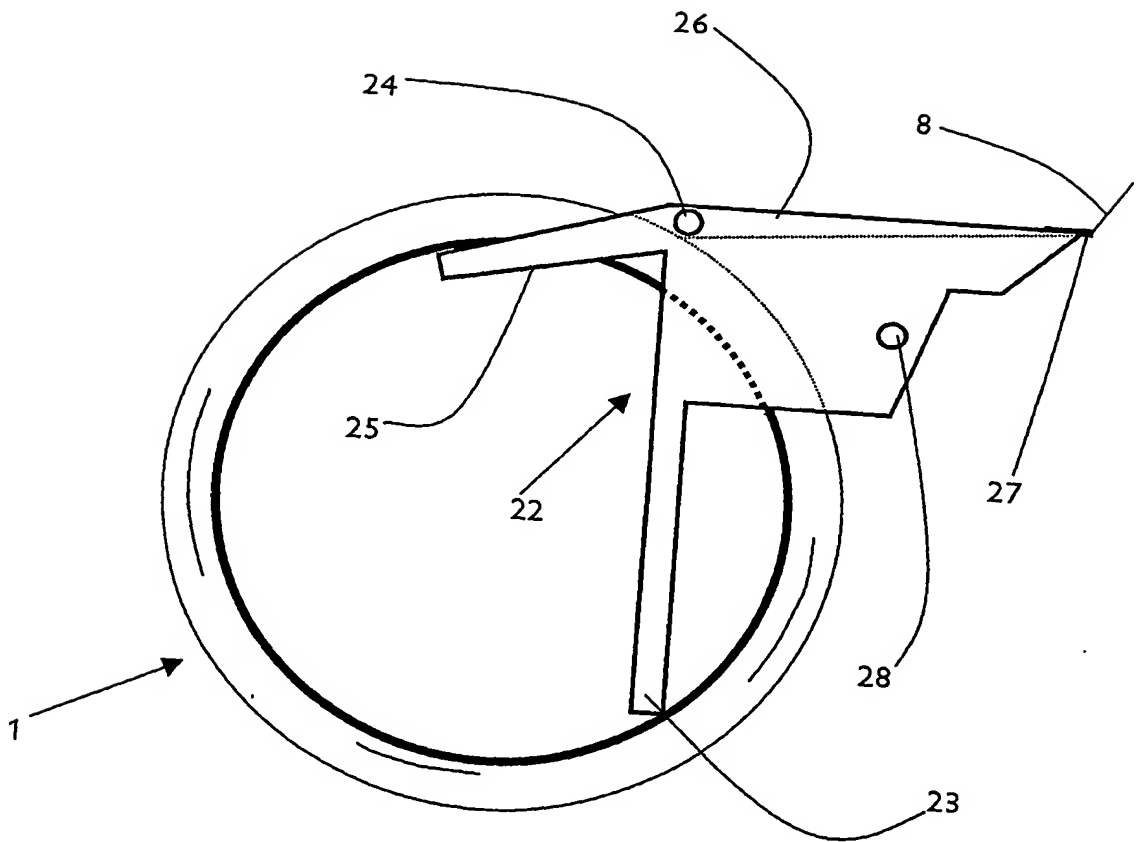


Fig. 8

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